

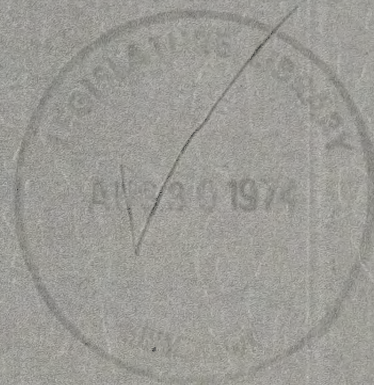
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HALL OF FAME

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Alberta
Department of Agriculture

A G R I C U L T U R A L

H A L L O F F A M E

ESTABLISHED 1950

MEMBERS - AGRICULTURAL HALL OF FAME

1950

Named to the Hall of Fame November 6th, 1950:

Joseph H. Johnston

Henry Wise Wood

Frank Collicutt, Calgary

Claude Gallinger, Edmonton

Charles S. Noble, Nobleford

Admitted to the Hall of Fame at the Official Opening,
July 17, 1951

JOSEPH H. JOHNSTON
1878 - 1950

A keen observer, a warm friend, and one of Alberta's most enthusiastic admirers of good live stock was the late Joe H. Johnston. Born in eastern Ontario in 1878, he came to Alberta in 1899 and homesteaded in the Olds district. Disposal of his farm in 1914 to join the University of Alberta staff as live stock man resulted in an ever-widening sphere of influence among students and live stock breeders alike.

When the University established a beef herd in 1918, Mr. Johnston became the first herdsman. In 1932, he was appointed Superintendent, a position he occupied until his retirement in 1947. During his years at the University, many honours from the show ring of the Toronto Royal and other exhibitions came to the University, including twenty breed championships. In 1927, a still unbroken record was established when steers from the University captured the Grand Championship, Reserve Grand Championship and four breed championships. The honours were due largely to the efforts and skill of Joe H. Johnston.

No one showed greater ability in selecting and fitting beef cattle than Mr. Johnston. The service he gave in preparation of University live stock for shows and championships was alone of outstanding benefit to the University and to the Province. His interests, however, were far from limited to this field. His contribution to the industry through his work in judging at fairs

and exhibitions, his influence on the students at the University, and the faith that the live stock breeders had in his ability did more for live stock improvement in this Province than will ever be realized. He was always ready to assist, and many were the calls he received from prospective purchasers of quality live stock for his constructive criticism and sound advice.

The death of Joe Johnston in 1950 brought to an end a life which for thirty years had been devoted to the public service and to agriculture. He will long be remembered, not only for his ability in the live stock field, but as one who considered service to his fellow man a primary motive of his existence.

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HENRY WISE WOOD
1860 - 1941

In 1941, there passed from among us one whose contribution to the farmers of this Province will be long remembered. His name was Henry Wise Wood. Believing that the economic difficulties of the farmer would be overcome only by group co-operation, he became one of the most powerful and influential figures in the farmers' movement in Alberta. Devoid of personal ambition, and giving himself whole-heartedly to the farmers' cause, he exercised a profound influence in the urge for social and economic progress.

Henry Wise Wood, the son of a prosperous Missouri farmer, was born in 1860. He came to Alberta in 1905 and established a home in the Carstairs district where he engaged in grain growing. He had always been interested in organized farm progress and soon became known and admired for his integrity and ideals.

Increasing appreciation of his fairness and sincerity resulted in his election as district director of the United Farmers of Alberta in 1914. In 1915, he became Vice-President of the organization, and in the following year was chosen as President. He became President of the Alberta Wheat Pool on its inception in 1923, and retained this position until his retirement in 1937. Active in the affairs of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, his efforts both as member and President of the Council did much to foster recognition of the place of agriculture in the Canadian economy and to bring about needed reforms.

In recognition of his services, he received a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alberta in 1929, and for his outstanding contribution to the country he was awarded the Cross of St. Michael and St. George in 1935 by His Majesty King George V.

The results of the work of Henry Wise Wood remain a lasting tribute to the foresight, energy and selfless devotion of one of Alberta's outstanding pioneers.

FRANK COLLICUTT

Early realization of the need for improved quality, and constant striving towards that end, was the record of Frank Collicutt at his Willow Springs Ranch, Crossfield. While recognizing the place of other breeds of cattle in Alberta, Mr. Collicutt constantly stressed the quality and importance of Herefords. Before his retirement, his fame had spread as one of the largest and most able Hereford breeders on the continent.

Experience, ability, and untiring zeal all had a share in his success. Born in New Brunswick, Mr. Collicutt came to Alberta before the turn of the century. Starting in the cattle business as a range rider, he gained wide knowledge of ranching, both as a breeder and businessman. In 1906 he became a cattle buyer for P. Burns, and five years later made his start in the pure-bred business. Although he had done considerable buying and selling on his own account since he acquired his Willow Springs Ranch in 1898, it was not until 1911 that he made final disposal of his grade cattle and started raising pure-bred Herefords. His progress since that time has made history.

With full recognition of the value of the highest quality sires on equally good foundation stock, he sought constantly for the best. Among his importations have been sires of outstanding quality and performance. His keen appreciation and understanding, together with his vast experience in the cattle

business, have enabled him to use his opportunities and abilities to such advantage that the benefits derived have been of inestimable value. The championships and reserve championships won by Frank Collicutt at the Royal Winter Fair and the Chicago International have brought fame to the Province and to himself.

Frank Collicutt's contribution to the agriculture of this Province is of lasting merit. The quality of his life's work and the esteem in which he is held provide inspiration for all who know him.

CLAUDE GALLINGER

From coal to cattle is not a usual path to fame, but for Claude Gallinger it opened the way to an abounding interest and to the position of Canada's biggest breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. His leadership in the live stock industry and his work in developing the Shorthorn breed have provided a contribution to the agriculture of this Province that will be long remembered.

Claude Gallinger, a native of eastern Ontario, was born at McDonald's Corners in 1881. On his arrival in Edmonton at the age of eighteen, he first obtained employment in a hardware store. Engaging later in the real estate business, he acquired an interest in a coal mine at Tofield. His introduction to live stock production was the purchase of commercial cattle to keep down the grass on the mine property. From there, his interest developed into a never-waning enthusiasm.

In 1925, the commercial cattle were replaced with pure-bred Herefords, together with some Shorthorns. In 1932, Mr. Gallinger began importing Shorthorns from Scotland. With his increasing attraction to the Shorthorn breed he disposed of his Hereford herd three years later, and concentrated his efforts on the breed of his choice. Since that time, his importations of outstanding individuals of the Shorthorn breed, together with his keen judgment and knowledge of the type desired, have had a definite influence on the type and quality of Shorthorn cattle both in Canada and in the United States. The name of Claude Gallinger, with his ranches

at Tofield, Nanton and Clover Bar, is almost synonymous with that of Killlearn, the village in Scotland from which his foundation stock came.

Although he has not himself featured as an exhibitor, animals of Gallinger breeding have won top honours at the chief live stock shows of the continent. Those achievements have brought honour to Canada, to Alberta and to the live stock producers of the Province.

Modest and unassuming, Mr. Gallinger holds the respect of all who know him. His contribution to the live stock industry will prove not only of lasting benefit, but an inspiration to present and future breeders of live stock.

CHARLES S. NOBLE

No one has done more for soil conservation in Alberta than Charles S. Noble. His early perception of the problems involved and his constant search for a solution have resulted in his recognition as one of our outstanding soil conservationists. In spite of adversity and early criticism of his ideas, his faith in the outcome continued undiminished.

Born in State Centre, Iowa, in 1873, C. S. Noble came to Alberta in 1902 and settled in the Claresholm district. In 1909 he acquired 5,000 acres of land north-west of Lethbridge, on which he engaged in large scale farming. Four years later, a company under the name of the Noble Foundation was organized by Mr. Noble to assist in the direction of his expanding operations. Starting with eight sections of land, expansion continued until at the peak of development there were 33,000 acres under cultivation.

Early in his career, C. S. Noble encountered the problems of drought and began to concentrate his energy and ability on their solution. He learned that trash left on the surface would protect the soil from wind and water damage and help to conserve soil moisture. There was no implement at that time capable of leaving the type of cover desired, so he decided to produce one. Starting in 1935 with his invention of the straight blade cultivator, he found that while it proved suitable

DANIEL J. MORKEBERG

Pioneer in creamery management and first president of the Alberta Dairymen's Association, Daniel J. Morkeberg, has been an outstanding figure in the Alberta dairy industry for the past sixty years. Since 1899, when he became supervisor of the creamery at Tindastoll (now Markerville), he has been continuously engaged in creamery management or direction.

Born in Denmark on August 2nd, 1870, Mr. Morkeberg served as a young man in the Danish Royal Guards, in which select group he became acquainted with the Crown Prince, later King Christian X of Denmark, who was then serving as a cadet. A desire to see more of the world brought young Dan to the United States in 1892. While there, he worked in creameries for a while, but the urge for adventure persuaded him that the goldfields of the north offered possibilities.

In 1898 Mr. Morkeberg left Montana for the Klondike, but the journey was interrupted in Alberta, where he became acquainted with Dr. C. P. Marker, Supervisor of Dairying for the Government of Canada, who persuaded him to remain in the Province, where he worked for an Edmonton creamery. He was asked by Dr. Marker to proceed to Tindastoll to supervise a creamery at that point. On arrival in July 1899, he was so attracted by the spot that he soon purchased land and built his home there.

But another interruption occurred. With the South African War came a demand for oats for the horses used in the campaign. Appointed inspector with headquarters in Calgary, Mr. Morkeberg left the creamery in charge of his brother and proceeded with his new and temporary task. It was in Calgary that he met his wife, and in 1902 he brought her as a bride to the home he had prepared on the farm acquired at Markerville. Together they enjoyed fifty happy years before the passing of Mrs. Morkeberg early in the present decade.

The closer the creamery to the cows the better will be the cream, was Mr. Morkeberg's contention, and at one time he had five creameries under his control. He first acquired the Markerville creamery. Noting his success, a director of the Innisfail creamery, which was then closed, asked him to take charge. This was followed by his being approached to supervise creameries at Lakeview (later Elnora), Lacombe and Red Deer. It was at these creameries that improvements in butter quality took place that resulted in top awards at exhibitions across Canada and a demand for Alberta butter from east to west.

With no political ambitions, Dan Morkeberg accepted nomination for election to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta solely for the service he might render. Following his election in 1917, his advice and assistance in drafting and revising the Alberta Dairymen's Act proved valuable. His work towards organization of the Alberta Dairymen's Association was such that on its formation in 1919 he became president and held that office during 1919, 1920, 1921, 1931 and 1932. His combination of

knowledge and experience, tact and diplomacy did much to hold the Association together in those early days and to provide a common meeting ground for all branches of the industry. He was the first member of this organization to be honoured with a life membership.

Organization and leadership were qualities for which Dan Morkeberg was admired and respected, but it was his kindly disposition and willing assistance that endeared him to his many friends. It was all in the day's work, he believed, but the result of that work, as day followed day, has produced a record of which Albertan's can be proud.

